

Message Text

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61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9842

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

USMISSION GENEVA

MCONSUL LENINGRAD 1518

RUDTCGXAMEMBASSY LONDON 4637

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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF KOSYGIN

ELECTION SPEECH

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. SUMMARY. KOSYGIN, IN NATIONALLY TELEVISED LIVE
ELECTION SPEECH JUNE 12, GAVE POSITIVE APPRAISAL OF
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U.S.- SOVIET RELATIONS, FORTHCOMING SUMMIT, AND

DETEENTE IN GENERAL. ON CSCE, HE MADE A PLEA FOR EACH PARTICIPANT TO EVALUATE RESULTS SO FAR "AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL" AND MAKE DECISION TO CONCLUDE CONFERENCE. UNLIKE MANY SPEAKERS WHO PROCEEDED HIM HE DID NOT CALL FOR A STRENGTHENING OF SOVIET DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. KOSYGIN LISTED AMONG "VISIBLE GREAT CHANGES" OF RECENT YEARS THE U.S. ASOVIET COMMITMENT TO BASE RELATIONS ON PEACEFUL COEXISTENCEM HE UNDERLINED THE "HISTORIC TURN" IN RELATIONS AS SERVING ALL HUMANITY. HE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO PRESIDENT NIXON'S COMING VISIT, PERHAPS INTRUDING A CAUTIOUS NOTE IN SAYING "WE HOPE" THAT IT WILL SERVE GOAL OF STRENGTHENING PEACE AND THE DEVELOPMENTS OF "ECONOMIC AND OTHER MUTUALLY USEFUL TIES BETWEEN PEOPLES."

3. DETENTE. KOSYGIN CALLED THE TENDENCY TO DETENTE THE DOMINANT CHARACTERISTIC IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE

INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE, AND SAID THAT THE SOVIET UNION IF FOR CONTINUING AND DEEPENING IT IN ORDER TO MAKE IT IRREVERSIBLE. AT THE SAME TIME, HE GAVE WEIGHT TO "OPPONENTS OF PEACE" AND "AGRRESSIVE IMPERIALIST CIRCLES" AND HE REMARKED THAT DETENTE DOES NOT MEAN A CESSATION OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE.

4. ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE WEST. PRAVDA VERSION OF KOSYGIN'S SPEECH DROPPED FROM THE DETENTE SECTION TWO REFERENCES TO ECONOMIC RELATIONS. ONE PASSAGE NOTED THAT CORRELATION OF FORCES, PRESENT LEVEL OF ARMAMENTS, AND DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL REVOLUTION ALL CONFIRM FACT THAT SOLUTION TO INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS MUST BE VIA DETENTE. SECOND PASSAGE SAID THAT STABLE ECONOMIC AND SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL RELATIONS WITH CAPITALIST COUNTRIES ARE IN THE INTEREST OF SOVIET NATIONAL ECONOMY. OMISSION OF THESE TWO PASSAGES MAY REFLECT EFFORT TO DISGUISE DEGREE TO WHICH USSR MAY FEEL ITSELF ECONOMICALLY WEAK WITHOUT WESTERN HELP.

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5. CSCE. KOSYGIN REFERRED TO SLOW WORK IN CERTAIN CSCE COMMITTEES, CITED INADMISSABILITY OF DECISIONS WHICH WOULD REPRESENT INTERREFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND SAID THAT "WE CONSIDER THAT TIME HAS COME WHEN EVERY PARTICIPATING STATE MUST EVALUATE AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL THE RESULTS THUS FAR ACHIEVED AND MAKE RESPONSIBLE DECISIONS WHICH WOULD OPEN WAY FOR CONCLUSION OF CONFERENCE IN SHORTEST TIME AT HIGH LEVEL."

IN LIVE TELECAST KOSYGIN USED PHRASE "HIGH LEVEL" IN REFERENCE TO THIRD STAGE; PRAVDA VERSION CHANGED THIS TO STANDARD "HIGHEST LEVEL." WHILE THIS DISCREPANCY MAY BE NO MORE THAN A SLIP OF THE TONGUE, IT IS INTERESTING THAT CONCLUSION AT "HIGH" RATHER THAN "HIGHEST" LEVEL WOULD MEAN KOSYGIN HIMSELF COULD GO. IN ANOTHER CURIOUS TEXTUAL DIFFERENCE, KOSYGIN ON TELEVISION LISTED AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ADVANCE THE RECOGNITION OF POSTWAR FRONTIERS" IN THE EASTERN TREATIES WITH THE FRG. PRAVDA RENDERED THE PASSAGE "RECOGNITION OF THE INVIOABILITY OF POSTWAR FRONTIERS" - PERHAPS TO GIVE THE STATEMENT A CSCE CONTEXT.

6. DEFENSE. UNLIKE MANY EARLIER SPEAKERS, INCLUDING GROMYKO, KOSYGIN DID NOT REFER TO THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN SOVIET DEFENSE CAPABILITY. INSTEAD, HE RETRICKED HIMSELF TO A LONG PANEGYRIC OF THE SOVIET ARMED FORCES, SAYING THEY ARE A DEFENDER OF PEACE AND A THREAT TO

NOBODY. IN THE SECTION ON DETENTE OPPONENTS, HOWEVER, HE SAID ""IN THE WEST THERE ARE APPARENTLY SOME WHO CONSIDER THAT AN INCREASE IN MILITARY SPENDING CAN BE RECONCILED WITH A POLICY OF DETENTE," AND WENT ON TO REJECT THIS THESIS.

STOESSEL

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